

Analysis of Western Music


Notre Dame Polyphony

Rhythmic Modes


A) Mode Names 1) Trochaic 2) Iambic
3) Dactylic 4) Anapestic 5) Spondiac
6) Tribrachic

B) Terms :
1) Longs - Long notes
2) Breves - Short notes.
3 Tempus - Basic time unit.
ex alternation of modes 1 and 2
of a long (2 tempora) and a breve (1 tempus)
4) Ligatures - Lines above notes
indicating groupings of notes.


Mode 1




Mode 2




Mode 3



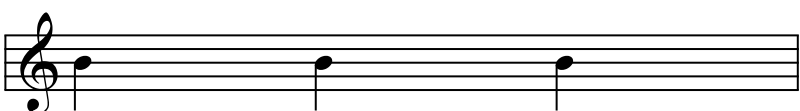
Mode 4



Mode 5



Mode 6



C) Modes one and 5 are used most commonly.
Mode 4 is rarely used.

In theory a mode 1 melody would consist of
patterns of the same rhythmic pattern. To avoid
monotony, use of modes was more flexible.